

1133279-0028 6p 3738

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gary J. Becker
Serial No. : 09/511,481
Filed : February 23, 2000
Title : EXPANDABLE INTRALUMINAL
ENDOPROSTHESIS
Examiner : Urmi Chattopadhyay
Group Art Unit : 3738
Confirmation No.: 3875
Date of Notice of Allowance: March 21, 2006
Issue fee paid: April 25, 2006

Express Mail Label: **EV 832192357 US**
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
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on **June 7, 2006.**
BERNARD MAYS
Name of person mailing paper or fee
Bernard Mays
Signature of person mailing paper or fee

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NOTICE REGARDING DRAWINGS

Sir:

This is in response to the Notice Regarding Drawings and the accompanying Form PTO-948 mailed May 10, 2006. Enclosed are six substitute drawing sheets, containing revised versions of

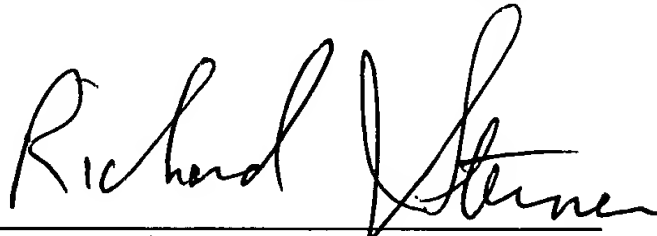
all of the Figures, 1-7, in the instant application. No specifics were given by the Draftsperson for objecting to the figures; it was simply indicated that there was something wanting in the "character of lines, numbers, & letters." In any event, the enclosed figures conform in every way with the standards for drawings set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.84.

Applicants note that it is stated in the Notice that the "corrected" drawings... "are **still** not acceptable...." [Emphasis added.] However, no objection to the drawings was ever made by the Office prior to the present Notice, and no substitute drawings were ever submitted by Applicants prior to the date of the present communication. It should further be noted that it took the Office over six years from the date of filing of the application to make a determination that the drawings were objectionable and that the Notice of such was not mailed until after the application was allowed and the issue fee was paid. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that, in fairness, processing and entry of the enclosed drawings be handled in an expeditious manner so that rightful issuance of this allowed application can occur with as little further delay as possible.

No fees should be due in connection with this communication. However, should it be determined that a fee is required for any reason, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge it to Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Date: June 7, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Sterner", written over a horizontal line.

Richard J. Sterner
Reg. No. 35,372

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Enclosures